

out water, methinks²: to forget their faults, I drink to you,

APEM. Thou weepest to make them drink³, Ti-mon.

2 LORD. Joy had the like conception in our eyes, And, at that instant, like a babe⁴ sprung up.

² Mine eyes cannot hold out water, methinks:]
In the original edition the words stand thus : ** Mine eyes cannot hold out water, methinks. To forget their faults I drink to you." Perhaps the true reading is this : " Mine eyes cannot hold out; they water. Methinks,, to forget their faults, I will drink to you." Or it may be explained without any change. ^{tc} Mine eyes cannot hold out water," that is, cannot keep water from breaking in upon them, JOHNSON.

3 —to make them drink.,] Sir T. Hanmer reads—to make them drink *thee*; and is followed by Dr. Warburton, I think, without sufficient reason. The covert sense of Apemantus is, ^ewhat thou

losest, they get,' JOHNSON.

4 —like a babe—] That is, a *seeping babe*. JOHNSON.

I question if Shakspeare meant the propriety of allusion to be carried quite so far. To look for *babies* in the eyes of another, is no uncommon expression. Thus, among the anonymous pieces in Lord Surrey's Poems, 1557:

" In eche of her two cristall eyes "

Smileth a *naked boye*" Again, in Love's

Mistress, by Heywood[^] 1636 :

" Joy'd in his looks, look'd *babies* in his eyes."

Again in The Christian turn'd Turk, 1612: " She makes him sing songs to her, looks fortunes in his fists, and *babies* in his eyes."

Again, in Churchyard's Tragicall Discours of a dolorous Gentlewoman, 1593:

" Men will not *lookefor babes* in hollow eyen."

STEEVENS

Does not Lucullus dwell on Timon's metaphor by referring to circumstances preceding the birth, and means joy was conceived in their eyes, and sprung up there, like the motion of a babe in the womb ? TOLLET.

The word *conception*, in the preceding line, shows, I think, that Mr. Tollett's interpretation of this passage is the true one. We have a similar imagery in Troilus and Cressida:

«-----and, almost like the gods,

" Does *thoughts* unveil in their dumb cradles."

MALONE.